

From: Jedidiah I. Sorokin-Altmann
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/16/02 11:35pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Dear Attorney General Ashcroft,

I am greatly distressed with some of the proposed settlement ideas that I have heard in the media.

Microsoft has broken every anti-trust law and FLAUNTED doing so. When they were asked to remove Internet Explorer from Windows 95, they acted like a three-year-old throwing a tantrum-claiming that they couldn't remove Internet Explorer without making things stop working. That's like telling a kid that he can't have chocolate before dinner and having the kid go on a hunger strike.

What is necessary is a method that will allow software vendors to fairly compete with Microsoft. Now something like this won't be easy Microsoft is a behemoth. One that has no qualms about running things (and people) over to get its own way. What, then, can be done?

Microsoft's file formats and application programming interface (API) must be documented, published, and standardized. The plan which the judge recently rejected would not do this, rather, Microsoft would have essentially have been left alone to continue business as usual for it. That is not the way. Microsoft has violated the law, and it the duty of the government to stop it.

Sincerely,

Jedidiah Sorokin-Altmann

Dartmouth College Class of 2005